

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 47, 49, 51-63, 107 and 111-118 are pending in the application, with claim 47 being the independent claim. Claims 47 and 114 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Thus, entry of these amendments is respectfully requested. In a voice-mail message to the undersigned on September 20, 2005, the Examiner stated that upon filing of these amendments, the present application would be in condition for allowance.

Based on the above amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment

The Examiner states in the Notice mailed December 30, 2005, that pages 6 and 8 of the Supplemental Amendment filed September 22, 2005, via facsimile transmission, were not received by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in tact, but, rather, that these pages contained a time stamp but no other printed data. Thus, claims 106-113 were not accounted for and page 8 of the response was blank. The present Amendment reiterates the amendments made by the response filed September 22, 2005, and the accompanying remarks. It is believed that Applicants are now fully in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121.

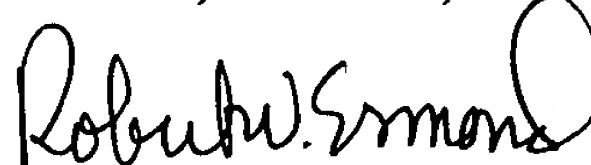
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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